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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 020618-000120US  
Client Ref. No.: N8-79CIP2

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Scott L. Aussenhus

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hageman et al.

Application No.: 10/007,270

Filed: November 8, 2001

For: THERAPEUTICS AND  
DIAGNOSTICS FOR OCULAR  
ABNORMALITIES

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.: 3566

Examiner: Sharon L. Turner

Art Unit: 1647

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND  
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION  
REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2003. The original deadline for response was November 21, 2003. A one month petition for extension of time is enclosed, thus extending the deadline to December 21, 2003 which, because it fell on a Sunday, further extends the deadline until December 22, 2003. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.